

*Dody Goodman*

# MARY HARTMAN, MARY HARTMAN

EPISODE #25

by

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FINAL DRAFT  
January 6, 1976

CAST OF CHARACTERS

MARY . . . . .	LOUISE LASER
TOM . . . . .	GREG MULLAVEY
CHARLIE . . . . .	GRAHAM JARVIS
LORETTA . . . . .	MARY KAY PLACE
GEORGE . . . . .	PHIL BRUNS
MARTHA . . . . .	DODY GOODMAN
DR. HASTINGS . . . . .	
NURSE . . . . .	
2 ORDERLIES . . . . .	
FOLEY . . . . .	BRUCE SOLOMAN
VOICE (MALE & FEMALE)	

SETS

<u>ACT I</u> (Pg. 1)	<u>MARY'S KITCHEN - AFTERNOON</u> (Mary, Female Voice, Male Voice, Tom)
<u>ACT II</u> (Pg. 10)	<u>LORETTA'S HOSPITAL ROOM</u> (Charlie, Loretta, Nurse, 2 Orderlies, Foley)
<u>ACT III</u> (Pg. 18)	<u>HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING</u> (Charlie, Foley)
<u>ACT IV</u> (Pg. 22)	<u>LORETTA'S HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT</u> (Nurse, Charlie, Martha, George, Loretta, Dr. Hastings)
<u>ACT V</u> (Pg. 28)	<u>MARY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT</u> (Tom and Mary)

ACT ONEMARY'S KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

MARY SITTING AT HER KITCHEN TABLE,  
WATCHING TELEVISION, UPSET.

VOICE

(FEMALE) Oh, dear God, if you'll just  
let Timmy live -- I know I don't deserve  
it after running away with Sam... and  
then with George -- but he's such a  
little boy! He hasn't done anything  
wrong! If you just give us another  
chance, I promise I'll be a fit mother!  
Just don't let him die, or be crippled  
for life!

SFX: ORGAN MUSIC SWELLING

MARY

(TO HERSELF OR GOD, CHECK ONE) Look, I  
really haven't done anything wrong, but  
if you could listen anyways -- I mean,  
I know I'm not saying this right --

SFX: ORGAN MUSIC OUT

VOICE

(MALE) Pain, pain, pain...

MARY

(CONTINUING) Just if you could let  
Loretta be okay?

VOICE

Yes, the pain of sinus headache...

MARY

Because she's really a good person.

VOICE

Throbbing, throbbing, throbbing...

MARY

She deserves another throb -- I mean,  
chance. (TURNING OFF THE SET)

THE BACK DOOR OPENS, AND TOM COMES IN.

MARY (CONT'D)

(TRYING FOR LIGHTNESS) Hi, honey.

TOM

Sweetheart... (DOESN'T KISS HER, RATHER  
GOES TO THE FRIDGE FOR A BEER)

MARY

Aren't you gonna kiss me hello?

TOM

Think I'm coming down with a cold.

MARY

I'll risk it.

TOM

No, really, honey -- you know, it's flu  
season...

MARY

What's wrong? You went to see Mae. Did  
she give you the flu?

TOM

No! The flu? Would she give me the flu?

MARY

Something happened, Tom.

TOM

Nothing.

MARY

You got a call from that woman at two  
o'clock in the morning.

TOM

Is there any coffee?

MARY

You got fired.

TOM

I didn't get fired. I just want some  
coffee.

MARY

The car, we're gonna have a big repair  
on the car.

TOM

No, honest... just some coffee. Where's  
the saccarine?

MARY

We don't use saccarine. Ever. It's  
something horrible.

TOM

Mary, you don't look too good.

MARY

I don't? I've been trying this new  
moisturizing cream --

TOM

You look upset.

MARY

I know. I've been watching Wamsutta's  
Purpose.

TOM

The one with the girl who murdered her  
lover because she had amnesia?

MARY

Right. And now she's going blind. And  
then, of course, I've been so upset about  
Loretta and Charlie totalling their Vega  
into a station wagonful of nuns.

TOM

I know. Do you think it's still on?

MARY

The nuns? What?

TOM

The show. (GOING FOR THE SET)

MARY

Tom! I thought we were talking about Mae!

TOM

I thought we were talking about Loretta  
and Charlie?

MARY

Oh, God...!

TOM

That's what Charlie must have said,  
all right. I mean, nuns... in uniform...

MARY

... Which has to make it worse. And  
Timmy's dying. Of course, you don't  
really care about him.

TOM

Timmy?

MARY

On The Secret Night, after Wamsutta's  
Purpose. He's not very good. But Marge  
has sworn to give up drugs, and that's  
something. I've been so nervous.

TOM

I know. You've been thinking about all  
those wounded nuns out on the highway --

MARY

I just thank God no one was killed.

TOM

Or even seriously hurt... in the station  
wagon.

MARY

They were probably protected, you know...

#25

TOM

Well, in a wagon, there's more structural  
steel, heavier crossbeams in the doors.

(POURING HIS COFFEE)

MARY

Tom...

TOM

Yeah?

MARY

Why won't you tell me what Mae wanted?

TOM

(WAFFLING) Well, it's kind of personal.

MARY

I'm your wife, I'm being understanding --  
what could be that personal?

TOM

Personal to her, Mary. I mean, she  
said things to me...

MARY

Yeah.

TOM

That were very hard for her to say. She's  
not a happy woman.

MARY

Well, I can understand...

TOM

What's for dinner?

#25

MARY

I don't know. I was thinking I could give Heather frozen. But the only thing that's left is fried chicken -- I mean, that our marriage is still together!

(STARTS TO KISS HIM)

TOM

Remember, the flu.

MARY

It is back together, Tom, isn't it?

TOM

Absolutely, and I love you --

MARY

Then what's wrong?

TOM

A headache.

MARY

A sinus headache? The pain, pain, throbbing pain...

TOM

From work.

MARY

I'll get you a sinu-tab. And a big glass of milk. How'll that be?

TOM

I've got coffee.

MARY

Then how about some Absorbine Deep-Heat rub? I could rub your back.

TOM

Maybe later.

MARY

You're not telling me everything, Tom?

TOM

I am.

MARY

You're stalling.

TOM

I'm hungry is what I am.

MARY

I'll make something to eat.

TOM

Maybe Heather and I can both have frozen?

MARY

There's only one left. How about a  
Boil-in-Bag? I've got Italian spaghetti,  
Chow Mein, or Salisbury Steak with  
mushroom gravy? And frozen Lime Chiffon  
Pie for dessert, if it thaws?

TOM

Great.

MARY

Tom, what is it you can't tell me?

TOM

That I love you. (REACHING FOR HER, STOPS)

MARY

But you can tell me that.

#25

TOM

It may not be as easy as it used to  
be.

ON MARY'S CONFUSED EXPRESSION:

FADE OUT.

ACT TWOLORETTA'S HOSPITAL ROOM

WHERE CHARLIE IS TIPTOEING IN WITH  
A HUGE BASKET OF FLOWERS. HE'S  
BEING VERY QUIET.

LORETTA

I'm not asleep.

CHARLIE

Oh. (BIG SMILE) Well, I just thought...

LORETTA

(BIG SMILE COMING BACK AS SHE SEES WHAT  
HE'S GOT) I can see what you thought,  
and if you aren't the most considerate,  
most wonderful...

CHARLIE

Bald-headed man in Fernwood.

LORETTA

Man in the world! But you shouldn't  
have. (AS HE SITS DOWN BY THE SIDE OF  
HER BED) I know how much that cost!

CHARLIE

No one can put a price on how much love  
I feel for you, and I just wanted to  
bring something.

(MORE)

#25

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Since I'm not the one in the family with  
a voice to sing about it. (SHE TOUCHES  
HIM) How you feelin'?

LORETTA

Better. Good. I mean, I'm really  
feelin'... better, I think. No, I am.

CHARLIE

You sure?

LORETTA

Mmm hmm.

CHARLIE

Been thinking much? The TV ain't on.

LORETTA

Oh, not too much. I was watchin' some  
old movie about someone who's got all  
these kids... I mean, wouldn't you know?  
The one kinda movie I could just as well  
do without right now. Besides, I  
couldn't get too interested. Are you  
okay?

CHARLIE

(NODDING) And guilty as hell that it's  
me who is.

LORETTA

Now, don't you talk like that! I mean,  
you're gonna have to take care of me  
for awhile, and I just thank the good Lord  
you're gonna be strong enough to do it.

#25

CHARLIE

Are you thinkin' a lot about the baby?

I mean, the fibroid tumor?

LORETTA

Oh, some. I mean, if it wasn't my time,

I guess it wasn't my time for a reason.

Maybe we just wasn't ready to be a good

Ma and Pa.

CHARLIE

Are you kidding? You would have been the

best! And she would have looked just

like you!

LORETTA

He would looked just like you. Charlie

Haggers, Jr.

CHARLIE

In his Little League suit --

LORETTA

Bald. He woulda looked awful funny playin'

little league without no hair. (BEAT)

You know, I think havin' this baby meant

even more to you than it did to me.

CHARLIE

Aw, hell, Loretta, you think we're quitters?

Just 'cause we got fooled once. We can try

again!

LORETTA

And have twins or triplets, I promise.

But I want you to promise me somethin'.

CHARLIE

What's that, honey?

LORETTA

That you won't get too down in the mouth.

CHARLIE

I'm glad! That you're fine! That's  
all I really care about.

LORETTA

'Cause just as soon as I get out of here,  
we've gotta start all over.

CHARLIE

I know it, honey.

LORETTA

I mean, one little car wreck can't keep  
a good ol' country girl like me down. I  
gotta go to Nashville! I gotta get me  
a recordin' contract, and make guest  
appearances on the Merv Griffin Show --

CHARLIE

They're gonna devote the whole ninety  
minutes to you!

LORETTA

They will! (SINGS) "Cause... when you're  
lookin' at me, you're lookin' at country..."

A NURSE ENTERS.

#25

NURSE

Mr. Brady?

CHARLIE

(LOOKING UP) Hagogers. Must have the wrong room.

NURSE

No, no -- Hagogers, of course. I just have the wrong chart -- I mean, the wrong name. We have to take Mrs. Brady down now, for X-rays.

CHARLIE

Hagogers.

NURSE

I'm sorry.

TWO ORDERLIES ENTERING, LIFTING LORETTA ONTO A GURNEY.

LORETTA

X-rays for what?

CHARLIE

It'll be all right, honey.

NURSE

You just don't have to worry about a thing, Mrs. Brady.

LORETTA

Loretta...

NURSE

What a sweet name.

CHARLIE

You're sure you got the right room?

NURSE

Oh, yes. Dr. Hastings' patient.

CHARLIE

Dr. Fermin's patient.

NURSE

Oh, yes, that's right here on the chart,  
too. But Dr. Hastings is a specialist.

LORETTA

A specialist for what?

NURSE

For you, Mrs. Brady.

LORETTA BEING WHEELED OUT.

LORETTA

Haggers, honey -- Haggers!

NURSE

I am sorry! I've just been relieved.

I mean, I've just relieved Nurse Tilford --

LORETTA

Charlie!

CHARLIE

(CALLING AFTER) It'll be all right,  
sweet baby.

NURSE

(SOTTO VOCE) That was very wise, Mr.  
Haggers. Reassuring your wife like that.  
It's always best in these serious cases  
not to get the patient too alarmed.

CHARLIE

Serious cases? What are you talkin'  
about?

NURSE

Oh, I am sorry! I thought Dr. Hastings  
... but I guess he hasn't.

CHARLIE

Hasn't what?

NURSE

Now you just stay here, and I'll have  
Dr. Moran explain. I'm sorry.

CHARLIE

(STARTING TO FOLLOW AS THE NURSE

DISAPPEARS) Dr. Moran?

FOLEY

(INTERCEPTING HIM IN THE DOORWAY)

Mr. Haggers?

CHARLIE

Yeah? You're sure you don't want Brady?

FOLEY

Not if you're the Charles Everett Haggers  
who had the vehicular mishap with the  
nuns.

CHARLIE

How's that?

FOLEY

The wreck?

#25

CHARLIE

Oh, right.

FOLEY

Well, there are a couple of matters I'd  
like to discuss with you.

CHARLIE

(WINCING) I don't like the way you  
said that.

FOLLOWING FOLEY OUT INTO THE CORRIDOR.

FADE OUT.

ACT THREE

CORRIDOR, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

FOLEY

Now there's nothing to worry about,  
Mr. Haggers -- honest -- I'm just here  
on a technicality.

CHARLIE

Well, just so long as there's no more  
tragedy or anything. I mean, me and  
my wife have gone through just about  
all we can go through.

FOLEY

No, it's no more tragedy --

CHARLIE

Like I'm not being sued by the city for  
damaging the street or anything.

FOLEY

No, nothing like that. (GETTING OUT  
A PAD AND PENCIL)

CHARLIE

I'm getting a ticket.

FOLEY

No, Mr. Haggers, no citation --

CHARLIE

The nuns are suing me.

FOLEY

I think it's been determined that the mishap was the fault of the other vehicle.

CHARLIE

Sister Bernadette. She's not a vehicle.

She's a nun.

FOLEY

I understand that.

CHARLIE

Well, I just thought you might have been confused. You know some people name their cars? Like Little Susie...?

FOLEY

Or Sister Bernadette.

CHARLIE

Exactly.

FOLEY

I'm here about the personal property that was recovered from the crash site.

CHARLIE

Oh, that's right!

FOLEY

That is, the property that wasn't destroyed in the fire.

CHARLIE

The what?

FOLEY

The fire. Your car was completely gutted.

CHARLIE

Well, I know there was some smoke --

FOLEY

Gutted, Mr. Haggers. (CHECKING HIS  
LIST) We have two charred suitcases --

CHARLIE

I don't care about the suitcases!

FOLEY

A picnic hamper, canteens...

CHARLIE

All I care about is the demonstration  
record!

FOLEY

Oh, that's right -- your wife's the  
singer down at the Rosemont!

CHARLIE

The greatest little Country and Western  
-- you see, we were on our way to  
Nashville --

FOLEY

There was also a tool kit...

CHARLIE

Just tell me about the damn acetate dubs!

FOLEY

No, I don't see anything like that.

CHARLIE

(GRABBING THE LIST) But there's got to be! We sunk every cent we had into that recordin' session!

FOLEY

I think one of the officers on the scene said he had some glop of plastic off of the back seat -- I don't even think they brought it in --

CHARLIE

Some glop of -- ! That was six cuts of C&W -- ! Our whole future!

FOLEY

If you'll just sign this form, you can pick up your possessions...

CHARLIE LOOKING A LITTLE QUEASY AROUND THE GILLS, REACHES FOR FOLEY'S PENCIL.

CHARLIE

Loretta! What am I gonna tell Loretta?

FADE OUT.

ACT FOURLORETTA'S HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

THE NURSE PUTTING UP A SCREEN AROUND THE SLEEPING LORETTA. CHARLIE WITH MARTHA AND GEORGE AT THE DOOR OF THE ROOM.

MARTHA

See the way she's sleeping. Just like  
a baby?

CHARLIE

Well, it's good she's getting her rest.  
I just don't know what I'm gonna do when  
she wakes up.

MARTHA

You'll help her pull through.

CHARLIE

Well, I'll try, but Jeez -- all her  
Dolly Parton inspired costumes are gone,  
and her little teddy bear, Scruggsie,  
that was burnt up, too.

MARTHA

Scruggsie?

CHARLIE

Named after Earl Scruggs, the greatest  
flat-picker in this country?

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

And then there's the demonstration record!  
How am I gonna tell her about that, George?

MARTHA

(TRYING TO BE HELPFUL) You can always  
buy other records. There's Guy Lombardo  
and Mitch Miller...

CHARLIE

No! Loretta's record that we were gonna  
take to Nashville so she could be a star!

GEORGE

Well, maybe you could just get one of  
those little cassette recorders and have  
her do the tunes again?

CHARLIE

But the engineers and the overdubs and  
the musicians -- you just can't have an  
artist sing into a pocket cassette  
recorder.

MARTHA

Of course not, George! Loretta's an  
artist. You should know that.

GEORGE

I guess I wasn't thinking.

CHARLIE

I just don't know how I'm gonna break it  
to her.

MARTHA

Look, don't you think it would be better  
if you just went home and got some rest  
yourself?

CHARLIE

I can't.

GEORGE

You'll wear yourself out, buddy.

CHARLIE

I've got to stick around in case she wakes up and needs me. Besides, the Doc's running some lab tests or X-rays and I wanna get the results so I can find out just how long Loretta's gonna be laid up. After all, I know my Loretta, and the first thing she's gonna ask, after she cries a little bit that we lost the demos, is when we can get started again.

MARTHA

(SNIFFLING A LITTLE) That's so brave.

CHARLIE

She's a brave little fighter.

GEORGE SLAPPING HIM ON THE BACK.

DR. HASTINGS

(APPEARING AT THE DOOR) Mr. Haggers?

CHARLIE LOOKING UP.

DR. HASTINGS (CONT'D)

I'm Dr. Hastings. Dr. Fermin called me in to consult on your wife's case?

CHARLIE

Oh, yeah, right -- you're the one with the X-rays.

HASTINGS

Right. If I could just speak to you a moment, privately?

CHARLIE

That's okay, Doc. These are close friends of mine, and Loretta over there's takin' a snooze right now...

HASTINGS

I'm afraid the diagnosis isn't good.

CHARLIE

How's that?

HASTINGS

We've read the X-rays several times now, and what we find is severe traumatic shock to the central nervous system caused by several compressed vertebra with a possible compound fracture and resultant bone chips.

GEORGE

I once chipped a bone in my elbow -- that wasn't too serious.

HASTINGS

But here we're talking about injuries  
to the back.

CHARLIE

What are you trying to say, Doc?

HASTINGS

That surgery will be necessary, Mr.  
Haggers. And the sooner the better.  
Of course, I have to tell you there are  
risks involved.

CHARLIE

What kind of risks?

MARTHA

What kind of surgery? Why? I mean,  
couldn't you give her one of those neck  
braces? Sonia Featherstone had a neck  
brace after her car accident and she  
was fine.

HASTINGS

I wish it were that simple. But I'm  
afraid Mrs. Haggers' options are a lot  
more difficult than that. Either she  
has the surgery...

CHARLIE

Or?

## HASTINGS

Well, if the injury's left untreated,  
Mr. Hoppers, I'm afraid your Loretta  
could be... crippled for life.

ON EVERYBODY'S STUNNED REACTIONS:

FADE OUT.

ACT FIVE

MARY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

TOM IN BED, ON THE VERY FAR, FAR  
EDGE OF THE BED, MARY ON THE PHONE,  
ASHEN.

MARY

Oh, my God... oh, God, oh, no...

TOM

What's the matter?

MARY

Look, Mom, I'll talk to you in the  
morning. (HANGING UP)

TOM

What's the matter?

MARY

I need a calmative.

TOM

A what?

MARY

That's what they call tranquilizers  
now. (SITTING ON THE EDGE OF THE BED)

TOM

Is something wrong with Ma?

#25

MARY

I knew we should have gone to the hospital.

TOM

Your mother's in the hospital?

MARY

No, Loretta. Mom and Dad just got home.

Oh, poor Charlie.

TOM

What happened to Charlie?

MARY

Loretta! That's what happened... oh, I can't believe it! That poor girl. I mean, why? Why would God let something like that happen?

TOM

Like what?

MARY

She'll never walk again...

TOM

(DISBELIEVING) Loretta?

MARY

If she doesn't have this very dangerous operation. She chipped her elbow, I couldn't make out what Mom was saying...

TOM

You don't get crippled from a chipped elbow.

#25

MARY

Well, maybe if you hit nuns. I mean,  
who are we to say? Something about her  
back... And Charlie's going out of his  
mind -- Look, how's your cold?

TOM

What?

MARY

The flu that's going around. Better?

TOM

No -- it's, uh, working its way up from  
the back of my throat, you know, a little  
sore...

MARY

Is that why you're all the way over on  
the other side of the bed?

TOM

Well, if I have a fever or anything...

MARY

(TOUCHING HIS FOREHEAD) You feel cool.

TOM

Maybe I oughta sleep downstairs.

MARY

I won't catch it. I have terrific  
resistence. I never catch Heather's  
colds... (SNEEZING)

TOM

This is different. Bless you.

MARY

What do you mean? A cold's a cold.  
Unless it's complicated by allergy, of  
course, and then you have to take an  
anti-histamine --

TOM

It's Mae.

MARY

She has an allergy? What?

TOM

No -- I mean, what's bothering me, after  
I went to see Mae.

MARY

You said nothing.

TOM

I lied.

MARY

I know you lied, but I figured... Look,  
whatever it is, you can tell me.

TOM

She was so miserable, Mary.

MARY

Well, I understand, playing around with  
a married man is a miserable thing to do.

TOM

No, I mean lonely and ashamed. You should  
have seen it -- I mean, it was her birthday...

MARY

Last night?

#25

TOM

No, two weeks ago --

MARY

What has that got to do with last night?

TOM

She had to tell me something. About her  
birthday, and this guy she met --

MARY

Another guy?

TOM

Before me. It was pretty heartbreaking,  
Mary. I mean, there she was -- divorced,  
alone, no one to even share a Hostess cup-  
cake and a candle with... when Louis  
Garth drops into town --

MARY

Who's Louis Garth?

TOM

A union man. And at the last minute he  
called her up and asked her out --

MARY

Oh, that's nice.

TOM

And they spent the night together. That's  
what she had to tell me.

MARY

But why? I mean, why tell you?

TOM

Because he had something, Mary -- you know, like those films in high school? And now she's got it. I mean, to have something like that happen to you on your birthday...

MARY

Oh, that poor woman. What a terrible, lonely life. I didn't realize. I mean, I hate what you did, Tom. But if I have to share you with anybody --

TOM

You're not sharing me, I swear it!

MARY

-- Then thank heaven it was with some sad, lonely woman who had to spend her birthday all alone and now has venereal disease.

(BEAT) Wait. If Mae is sick and you were with her that means you could have it, too.

TOM SIMPLY STARES AT HER.

MARY (CONT'D)

Wait again. When you were with me, wasn't that after you were with --

TOM

(AFTER ANOTHER LONG BEAT) I'm sorry, Mary.  
I'm really sorry.

MARY MOUTHING THE WORDS, A SILENT ECHO.

FADE OUT.